

**MINUTES OF THE LOCAL JURISDICTION MEETING OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
June 4, 2003**

The local jurisdiction meeting of the Washington State Transportation Commission was called to order at 8:30 a.m., on June 4, 2003, at Everett Station, 3201 Smith Avenue, Everett Washington.

Commissioners present were: Chair Davis, Chris Marr, Ed Barnes, Elmira Forner and Connie Niva.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Davis called the meeting to order and opened the roundtable discussion introducing Dale Pope, Councilmember, City of Everett. Mr. Pope extended Mayor Frank Anderson's welcome to the City of Everett. He distributed handouts from the city's Economic Development Division and indicated that local officials would be providing an overview of economic partnerships and local projects. Chair Davis initiated introductions of meeting participants.

STATE OF THE STATE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Chair Davis explained that Secretary MacDonald was unable to attend today's meeting due to a conflicting appointment, however, Paula Hammond, Chief of Staff, attended on his behalf.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Deborah Knutson, Snohomish Economic Development Council, discussed the counties dependency on the aerospace industry. She briefly outlined the counties strategy for economic development, the business base that the county would like to attract, and the value labor-intensive production jobs that may leave the county as a result of Boeing's labor cost concerns and transportation issues. She urged the Commission to look at job concentrations and how transportation needs impact that relationship.

Rich White, Snohomish County Committee for Improved Transportation (SCCIT), explained what SCCIT is and its priorities in dealing with transportation issues in Snohomish County. He pointed out that SCCIT has identified many transportation issues and the types of projects to aid in the relief of congestion. He stated that more funding should be invested in long-range planning and infrastructure.

Louise Stanton-Masten, Everett Chamber of Commerce, outlined projects in downtown Everett. She explained that new funding would achieve the completion of

transportation projects and economic revitalization of the area. Ms. Stanton-Masten commented that there are other significant opportunities for industrial development in the Puget Sound region.

Paul Roberts, Planning Director, City of Everett, spoke about Paine Field and the development of the surrounding area. He stated that land use control and zoning requirements were utilized to prevent encroachment of Paine Field. Mr. Roberts explained the increase in traffic capacity on I-5 today compared to when it was built.

Paula Hammond, Chief of Staff, briefly commented regarding Nickel Funded projects and the 10-year plan. She stated that the Department is working with the Legislature to determine which projects would be advanced.

Jean Hales, President, South County Chamber of Commerce, spoke about various projects throughout Snohomish County commenting that economic development and population growth would create gridlock in the future without transportation improvements.

OVERVIEW OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Lorena Eng, Administrator, Northwest Region, opened the presentation introducing Charlie Howard, Policy and Planning Director. Mr. Howard provided an overview of transportation issues in Snohomish County explaining that traffic congestion in Snohomish County is as a result of the 30.1 percent population growth between 1990 and 2000.

Ms. Eng, spoke about Current Law Budget projects, Regional Transportation Investment District funding and Nickel Funded projects. She outlined district projects in Snohomish County and what new funding will achieve.

Gary Nelson, Councilmember, Snohomish County, spoke about the Regional Investment District (RTID) and stated that it is more important than ever for Snohomish, King and Pierce Counties. He stated that state funding has not been adequate enough to fund projects in the region. Mr. Nelson explained revenue packages and the distribution of funds to major corridor improvements and transit systems.

Dave Gossett, Councilmember, Snohomish County, provided a presentation of major projects in the region associated with the Nickel Funded package.

Steve Thompsen, Snohomish County, discussed working with the Tribes regarding enhancements near Point Elliott.

Colleen Jollie, WSDOT Tribal Liaison, introduced Kyle Taylor Lucas and Daryl Williams, Tulalip Governmental Affairs. Ms. Lucas thanked Ms. Jollie, the Department and Commission for working in consultation with the tribes. She expressed

her appreciation of the development of the Centennial Accord Plan. Mr. Williams commented regarding proposed ferry terminals. He stated that the tribes are concerned about possible impacts to the Mukilteo site and the Port of Everett as a result of terminal construction. He spoke briefly regarding the tribe's involvement with economic development, and the need for improved transportation transit services.

AVIATION IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

John Sibold, Director, Aviation Division, spoke briefly regarding the important economic benefits of Paine Field and Arlington airports to the area.

Rob Putnam, Manager, Arlington Airport, explained directional documents that the Aviation Division has provided to airports that have assisted him with planning. He briefed the Commission regarding Arlington Airport revenue, operating budget and the airport improvements and transportation needs.

Dave Waggoner, Airport Manager, Paine Field, provided the Commission with a brief history of Paine Field. He referenced the implementation of the 1990 Airport Master Plan that contributed to runway improvements, stating that the runway meets standards for any aircraft landing. Mr. Waggoner expressed his concerns regarding traffic congestion on I-405.

Bob Drewel, Executive, Snohomish County, thanked the Commission for coming to Snohomish County. He commented regarding the importance of the Nickel Package to the county and the investments that will be made as a result.

SOUND TRANSIT

Joni Earl, Executive Director, Sound Transit, stated that Sound Transit is trying to build a regional transportation system as tasked by the voters in 1996. She briefly outlined Sound Transit's three types of business; light rail, commuter rail and regional express buses. She outlined the unique features of the Sound Transit plan stating the it delivers a fair share of investments to each of Sound Transit's five geographic areas. The principle of "subarea equity" assures that Sound Transit taxes raised within an area are used for capital projects and operations that directly benefit that area.

PUBLIC AND LEGISLATOR COMMENT PERIOD

Paul W. Locke, citizen, expressed his concern to the Commission regarding the cost of transportation projects.

Chris Hysom, Staff Council, Senate Republican Caucus, spoke on behalf of Senator Val Stevens, stating that she wishes to extend her appreciation to Secretary MacDonald, Paula Hammond, Chief of Staff, Pat McCormick, SNOKing Engineering Manager, and Lorena Eng, Administrator, Northwest Region, for taking the time to meet

with her regarding the Smokey Point Interchange Project. She also expressed her concerns about the interchange considering the nature of economic development surrounding the jurisdictions.

Stephan Clifton, Community Service Director, City of Edmonds, expressed his frustration regarding the permitting process. He stated that the process is complex, unclear, costly, and there is conflicting information between agencies that drastically slows down the permit process.

Mayor David Weiser, City of Marysville, stated that he is a member of Marysville/Arlington Transportation Relief Action Committee (TRAC). He explained that TRAC was formed to look at acquiring funding to rebuild the Smokey Point Interchange at I-5. He also discussed Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) funding to address congestion relief.

Becky Foster, Planning Commissioner, City of Marysville, provided comments regarding urban growth and traffic congestion on Smokey Point Boulevard. She expressed the need for the Smokey Point Interchange at I-5.

Mayor Bob Kraski, City of Arlington, expressed the need for funding to aid congestion relief for the area. He commented briefly regarding Boeing and the need to keep the building of the 7E7 in the area.

Caldie Rogers, President and CEO, Marysville/Tulalip Chamber of Commerce, spoke about forming a collaborative effort with the Tulalip Tribe to improve traffic congestion in the area.

Lisa Vares, Marysville City Council, commented regarding voting variations in communities.

Greg Blunt, Crown Distributors, commented regarding traffic congestion at Smokey Point and the impact that it has on economic development.

Bill Denford, TRAC, commented regarding traffic congestion at Smokey Point and the impact it has on the surrounding area.

Chair Davis, commissioners and meeting participants shared comments and ideas regarding the permitting process and funding for local projects.

The Commission meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. on June 4, 2003.